

NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: 11/14/07

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Find great gifts and help State Parks

Discover Holiday Presents at Old Town

San Diego - **Old Town San Diego State Historic Park**, just minutes from downtown and an option to the busy malls, offers a number of high quality unique gifts at reasonable prices in a quaint historic setting. Shoppers are offered a glimpse into yesteryear, where life moves more slowly in this part of town, and where the holiday hustle and bustle is balanced with history and fiestas. Special this December is a variety of events that offer visitors and shoppers the opportunity to experience the history of early San Diego.

As part of Fiesta Navidad Holiday in the Park, Old Town and the local community will be adorned with holiday decorations, lantern-lit museums, hundreds of luminarias, holiday entertainment, festive music, and the very popular candlelight tours will be available. Events kick off on Saturday, December 1, from 6:00 to 9:00 PM with the Historic Merchants Open House. Within the State Historic Park, there are over twenty-eight specialty shops, including the Boosters of Old Town cooperating association store, that offer products such as candles, decorative tin, jewelry, gems and minerals, ladies fine goods, cigars and pipe tobaccos, old time music, coffee, teas, spices, leather goods, porcelain dolls, pottery, native American hand crafts, and books.

If you work up an appetite strolling through the shops, the menus of three restaurants offer Mexican food items but you are assured to find something on the menu to please. To keep the kids of all ages busy, tours are offered daily, and there are a variety of museums including the 1830's mansion La Casa de Estudillo, La Casa de Machado y Silvas, San Diego's earliest newspaper office, the McCoy House Interpretive Center, a working blacksmith shop, and the Seeley Stables, with newly rehabilitated exhibits on overland transportation and one of the finest wagon and carriage collections.

Old Town San Diego State Historic Park is conveniently located next to the Old Town Transit Center with Coaster, Amtrak, Trolley, and MTS bus service.

For a list of stores or additional information, click over to Old Town San Diego State Historic Park, at www.parks.ca.gov, or phone 619-220-5422.